

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 03269 251230Z  
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 DEAE-00 AGRE-00 /020 W  
-----048395 251333Z /53

R 251150Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 483

UNCLAS LA PAZ 3269

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: SNAR  
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: S/NM MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
SPECTRAL DATA CORPORATION

REF: STATE 96248

1. IN 1975 EFFORTS WERE INITIATED TO ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY COCA PLANTATIONS BY MEANS OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE USE OF VARIOUS TYPES OF FILM AND FILTERS. EXPERIMENTAL FLIGHTS WERE CONDUCTED BY GOB AIR FORCE UNDER AUSPICES OF DR CARLOS BROCKMAN, DIRECTOR OF ERTS-GEOBOL.

2. A SEPARATE EXPERIMENT WAS CONDUCTED IN OCTOBER 1975 BY MR A.B. PARK AND W.G. BOONER OF THE EARTH SATELLITE CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON D.C. INVOLVING FLIGHTS OVER THE YUNGAS AND THE CHAPARE COCA GROWING AREAS.

3. THESE FLIGHTS AND STUDIES PROVED INCONCLUSIVE AS TO THE CAPABILITY OF SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFYING THE COCA BUSH BY MEANS OF AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, REQUIRING EXTENSIVE GROUND FIELD OBSERVATION FOR VERIFICATION.

4. THEY PROVED USEFUL, HOWEVER, IN LAYING THE GROUND WORK FOR REMOTE SENSING AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY WITH GROUND VERIFICATION NOW UNDERWAY AS PART OF THE COCA ZONES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT 511-7271 TO IDENTIFY ALL AGRICULTURAL VEGETATION IN THOSE  
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ZONES.

5. AT THE TIME (1975) DR BROCKMAN WAS AWARE OF TESTS TO DEVELOP A SIGNATURE OFR OPIUM SIMILAR TO THOSE CONDUCTED BY THE SPECTRAL DATA CORPORATION AND SUGGESTED THAT ONE COULD POSSIBLY BE DEVELOPED FOR THE COCA LEAF. THAT IS WHERE THE MATTER STANDS. THERE ARE NO SPECTRAL COMMITMENTS WITH ERTS-GEOBOL AND DR BROCKMAN AT

THE PRESENT TIME.

6. MISSION BELIEVES THAT DEVELOPMENT OF A SIGNATURE FOR COCA LEAF MAY POSSIBLY BE USEFUL ONCE THE GOB ESTABLISHES A CLEAR CUT LIMITATION TO COCA GROWING AREAS AND A PROGRAM OF ERRADICATION OF ILLEGAL PLANTATIONS IS UNDERWAY. IF IT WERE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD AND DEVELOP A SIGNATURE, ERTS-GEOBOL WOULD BE THE PROPER GOB AGENCY TO COORDINATE OUR EFFORTS.  
BOEKER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, REMOTE SENSING, CROP DESTRUCTION, AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY  
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**TAGS:** SNAR, BL, SPECTRAL DATA CORPORATION  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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